

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 13-15, 17-22 and 24-26 are currently pending in this application. Claims 16 and 23 have been cancelled.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

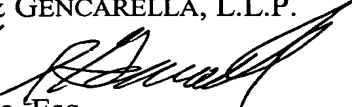

Claims 13-18, 22-24, and 26 were rejected as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,426,232 to Livak in view of US Patent 3,413,474 to Freeh. In light of the amendments presented herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection. In the previous Office action, the examiner stated that claims 16 and 23 were allowable. The features of claims 16 and 23 have been incorporated into independent claims 13 and 22. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the allowance of all pending claims as the remaining dependent claims ultimately depend from claims 13 or 22.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner

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Response dated January 4, 2006
Reply to Office action of November 23, 2005

may reach the undersigned at **(408) 774-6921**. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. LAM2P437). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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